

REMARKS

In the outstanding Office Action, the Examiner states that the application includes the following inventions: (1) claims 1-7 and 9-12 directed to a plastic joint; and (2) claim 8 directed to a method of producing a plastic joint. The Examiner submits that the enumerated inventions are related as a 'process of making' and a 'product made'. The Examiner further asserts that the plastic joint may be made of another and materially different process from that claimed in the application. Thus, the Examiner concludes that the inventions are distinct and hence requires election.

In response to the outstanding Office Action, Applicants herein elect the first above-enumerated invention as set forth in claims 1-7 and 9-12. Non-elected claim 8 is herein correspondingly cancelled. However Applicants reserve and maintain the right to pursue the cancelled claim in a related application(s) without prejudice in respect of the present amendment or otherwise.

It is believed that the foregoing is fully responsive to the present Office Action. Consideration of the application and allowance thereof are respectfully requested.

The Examiner is invited to contact Applicants' attorneys at the below-indicated telephone number regarding this response or otherwise concerning the present application. Please charge any required fees for this response, or otherwise concerning the present application, to Deposit Account No. 06-1130 maintained by Applicants' attorney.

Respectfully submitted,

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